



Brittany Jakubiec is a PhD Student in Educational Studies at UPEI.

**Message from the Editor: Brittany Jakubiec**

Hello readers! There is so much greatness in Issue 5 that I am not going to say much. What I will say though is this: If you are a grad student, please consider submitting an abstract for the UPEI Multidisciplinary Graduate Research Conference! It will be a great opportunity to network, share knowledge, and gain skills.



**Announcing the UPEI Multidisciplinary Graduate Research Conference, August 6, 7, and 8!**



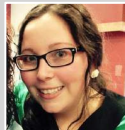





The inaugural University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) Multidisciplinary Graduate Research Conference (UMGRC) is a pan-Canadian, refereed, academic conference designed to showcase the work of graduate students at UPEI and beyond.

The theme of the conference is, "Emerging Scholars: Illuminating Graduate Research." The conference will offer graduate students across Canada the opportunity to present their graduate research with either a poster or a paper presentation, acquire skills and knowledge through workshops, and participate in dialogue and discussion between and within disciplines. More information can be found [on our webpage](#) and you can register for the event [here!](#)

Abstracts are due by June 10, 2015 and should be emailed to [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)

Issue 5, May 21, 2015

In this issue:

	Message from the Editor: Brittany Jakubiec	1
	Graduate Research Conference	1
	Meet the GSA VP Internal: Brittany Jakubiec	2
	GSA Garbage Crawl Part I	2
	Upcoming events & important dates	2
	Graduate Studies Day, Faculty of Science	3
	Congratulations Dr. Stewart and Dr. Lorway!	4
	Building Academic Integrity at UPEI	4

**UPEI GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Valerie Campbell (President), Brittany Jakubiec (VP Internal), Hannah Gehrels (VP Finance)

Editor: Brittany Jakubiec  
Contact: [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)



### Meet the GSA VP Internal: Brittany Jakubiec

I have just graduated from UPEI with my Master of Education degree. In the fall, I will be starting a new program – the PhD in Educational Studies in the Faculty of Education (UPEI). I am really excited about what is to come.

As for my involvement with the GSA, I have created several initiatives such as this newsletter, and more recently, the UPEI Multidisciplinary Graduate Research Conference. Planning this conference with Hannah (VP Finance) and Valerie (President), and members of the UMGRC planning committee, has been tremendously fun. I hope that you all will attend our many events, workshops, and presentations.

### GSA Garbage Crawl

Now that the snow has FINALLY melted, a lot of garbage is showing up on the ground. On Tuesday May 19, a group of UPEI students (and a 4-year-old) cleaned up a portion of the confederation trail along the edge of UPEI property. It was a lot of fun! Thank you to Naomi, Becca, Chris, Christian, Alicia, Brittany, and Kaden for coming out! We picked up eight full bags of garbage. We are heading out to pick off where we left off on May 26 at 4:30. Please feel free to join us!



## UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Education Graduate Journal Club. May 26 at 12:15 in AVC 278N. Contact Gabriela Sanchez for more information ([gsanchez@upei.ca](mailto:gsanchez@upei.ca))
- Annual PhD Presentations: Michele Moffat and Charlene VanLeeuwen. May 27 at 9:30 am in Memorial Hall room 417. Contact Cathy Hennessey for more information ([chenesseey@upei.ca](mailto:chenesseey@upei.ca))
- GSA Garbage Crawl, Part II: May 26 at 4:30 on the Confederation Trail. Contact Hannah Gehrels for more information ([hgehrels@upei.ca](mailto:hgehrels@upei.ca))

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# GRADUATE STUDIES DAY

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE , MAY 1 2015

By: Pedro Quijon



The 2015 Graduate Studies Day of the Faculty of Science was held on May 1st and left a few highlights worth mentioning. After some welcoming words, Dr Joseph Pawlik (UNC-Wilmington) delivered an appealing keynote presentation that lighted up the interest of many in the audience. Dr Pawlik gave an overview of the usually understated ecosystem role of sponges in Caribbean waters, bringing together chemistry, ecology, oceanography and arguably a couple of other disciplines. This was just appropriate considering an audience crowded with students of quite diverse backgrounds and disciplinary interests. The rest of the event switched then to our graduate students, who offered the largest number of presentations this far in our Faculty: 31 oral and poster presentations, including two post-doctoral fellows' contributions.

Although obvious as an afterthought, that is no less than a summary of 31 ongoing research projects in our Faculty! That speaks very highly of the amount and diversity of the work our graduate students do, and the importance of this work for our Faculty and UPEI. This event also saw the greatest participation of students in "parallel" roles: Kshitij Trivedi and Jesse Hitchcock participated in the judging of posters and talks, Brendan Sheppard and Hailey Lambe moderated oral sessions, Sean Landsman provided the photograph that served as the background for the event's poster, and several others helped out with the setting up of posters in preparation for Graduate Studies Day. Last but not least, Christian Agatemor and Luke Poirier were awarded best and 1<sup>st</sup> honorary mention for talks, and Mark Nabuurs and Julia MacKenna were awarded best and 1st honorary mention for posters. A word of congratulation goes to these four students and a word of gratitude goes to those mentioned right before.

To give proper credit to all those participating and to learn more about what our students do before and after Graduate Studies day, visit <http://www.upei.ca/science/graduate-programs/graduate-studies-day>

### Invitation for feedback on UPEI Robertson Library

You are invited to provide feedback on the current and future direction of UPEI Robertson Library during a focus group involving undergraduate and graduate students. We are in the process of developing a new five year strategic plan and would like to hear from you about what is working well and what we can do differently in the future. Details of the focus group are as follows: Tuesday June 2, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm (with pizza) in the Faculty Lounge, SDU Main Building. For more information, and to RSVP, please contact Maria Durling at [maria.durling@mrsbgroup.com](mailto:maria.durling@mrsbgroup.com)

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## First two PhDs in Educational Studies from UPEI

On May 9, 2015 the Faculty of Education and broader campus community at UPEI celebrated the first two PhD graduates Dr. Bonnie Stewart and Dr. Verne Lorway. Dr. Lorway's dissertation is entitled, "Disrupting the "maestro": Tuneful youth insights for engaged music education." Dr. Stewart's dissertation is entitled, "Scholarship in Abundance: Influence, engagement, and attention in scholarly networks." Congratulations to Bonnie and Verne on this tremendous achievement!



### Building a Culture of Academic Integrity at UPEI by Dr. Debbie MacLellan, Dean of Science

In 2013, the Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee reviewed a document entitled "Building a Culture of Academic Integrity," describing a growing concern on campus around issues of academic dishonesty. In response, the committee commenced an in-depth study understand the extent of the problem at UPEI. Dr. Rosemary Herbert and I formed a subcommittee to work on this project. We enlisted the help of Robin Sutherland and Ruby Madigan (UPEI Writing Centre), and we met with various stakeholders on campus. We hired a student to conduct a literature review which led to the decision to conduct a survey on academic integrity with UPEI faculty. Our research assistant, Brittany Jakubiec, conducted the survey and the results are currently being analyzed. Be on the lookout for a report on the findings. We also plan to submit an article for publication.

### Upcoming ACU Commonwealth Summer School By Coleen Even, University of Waterloo

The University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, and Western University are hosting the Association of Commonwealth Universities Summer School this August. During this conference, senior undergraduate and graduate students from across the commonwealth come together to discuss topics of major importance around the world. The topic of this year's conference is Big Data and the Digital Divide. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

**DO YOU WANT TO  
CONTRIBUTE?**

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Are you looking to keep on top of university news, career advice, and job listings? Take a look at University Affairs, which provides a number of ways to stay informed about and connected with Canada's university community.

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